

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application which is a continuation of co-pending parent U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/702,989 filed on November 1, 2000. No claims have been amended herewith.

This preliminary amendment has been presented to provide the priority statement in the first paragraph of the specification.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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